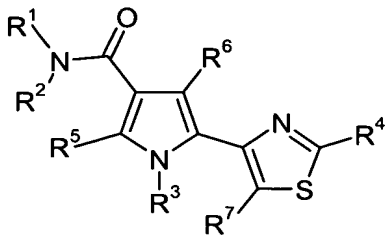
What is Claimed is:

1. A compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, or lower alkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy-lower alkyl, lower alkoxycarbonylamino, $-(CH_2)_m-R^{2a}$ or $-NHC(O)-R^{2a}$;

or R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered, saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or two further heteroatom(s) independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy;

R^{2a} is cycloalkyl, optionally mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; cycloalkenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, lower alkylamino; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;

R^3 is lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy-lower alkyl, di-phenyl-lower alkyl, or $-(CH_2)_n-R^{3a}$;

R^{3a} is cycloalkyl, which may optionally be fused to a phenyl ring; or cycloalkyl which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; cycloalkenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino or lower alkylamino; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;

R^4 is lower alkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl; cycloalkyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, lower alkylamino; phenoxy-lower alkyl, wherein the phenyl moiety may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro; or two adjacent substituents of the said phenyl residue together are $-O-(CH_2)_p-O-$ or $-(CH_2)_2-O-$;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen or fluorinated methyl;

R^7 is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen;

m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;
n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;
p is 1, 2 or 3;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is hydrogen.

3. The compound according to any of claim 1, wherein R^2 is lower alkyl or a residue $-(CH_2)_m-R^{2a}$ or $-NHC(O)-R^{2a}$.

4. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is a residue $-(CH_2)_m-R^{2a}$ or $-NHC(O)-R^{2a}$.

5. The compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is a cycloalkyl residues with three to six carbon atoms, which may optionally be mono- or tetra-substituted, independently, by lower alkyl and/or hydroxy.

6. The compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is cyclohexenyl.

7. The compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is an unsubstituted 5-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen and oxygen.

8. The compound according to claim 7, wherein R^{2a} is piperidinyl, morpholino or tetrahydrofuranyl.

9. The compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is a 5- or 6-membered monovalent heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring bein optionally substituted by lower alkyl.

10. The compound according to claim 9, wherein R^{2a} is pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, thiazolyl or isoxazolyl, optionally substituted by lower alkyl.

11. The compound according to claim 4, wherein R^{2a} is a phenyl residue which is optionally mono- or di-substituted, independently, by lower alkoxy, halogen, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro.

12. The compound according to claim 1, wherein m is 0 or 1.

13. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered, saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing an oxygen atom in the ring.

14. The compound according to claim 13, wherein R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached are unsubstituted pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl or morpholino.

15. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is a residue $-(CH_2)_n-R^{3a}$.

16. The compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is cycloalkyl fused to a phenyl ring.

17. The compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is an unsubstituted cycloalkyl residue with five or six carbon atoms.

18. The compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is a 5- or 6-memberd heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen and oxygen, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by lower alkyl.

19. The compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring containing one heteroatom selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-substituted by lower alkyl.

20. The compound according to claim 15, wherein R^{3a} is phenyl optionally mono- or di-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro.

21. The compound according to claim 15, wherein n is 1 or 2.

22. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is unsubstituted cyclohexyl.

23. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-substituted by lower alkyl.

24. The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is phenyl mono- or di-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro.

25. The compound according to claim 1, wherein two adjacent substituents of a phenyl residue R^4 together are -O-(CH_2) -O- or -(CH_2)$_2$-O-.

26. The compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
rac-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid sec-butylamide,
rac-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenoxymethyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrr ole-3-carboxylic acid sec-butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid isobutyl-amide,

1-Furan-2-ylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid isobutyl-amide,
1-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid isobutyl-amide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid allylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylmethyl-amide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-(2-pyrazin-2-yl-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylmethyl-amide,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

27. The compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:
1-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylmethyl-amide,
5-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenoxymethyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1-(3-methoxy-propyl)-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylmethyl-amide,
4-[1-[2-(3,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-4-(3-methoxy-propylcarbamoyl)-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]-thiazole-2-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid piperidin-1-ylamide,
N'-{1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonyl}-hydrazinecarboxylic acid ethyl ester,
rac-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid sec-butylamide,
{1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrol-3-yl}-piperidin-1-yl-methanone,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid phenylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid pyrimidin-2-ylamide,
rac-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (5-hydroxy-2,2,6-trimethyl-cyclohexylmethyl)-amide,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

28. The compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:
5-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1-(3-trifluoromethoxy-benzyl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Benzyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
{1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrol-3-yl}-pyrrolidin-1-yl-methanone,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
5-(2-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-thiazol-4-yl)-1-cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-[2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

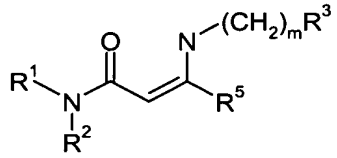
29. The compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-(2-m-tolyl-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-(2'-methyl-[2,4']bithiazolyl-4-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,

5-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1-cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
5-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1-cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(2,3-dihydro-benzofuran-5-yl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-(2-p-tolyl-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-methyl-5-[2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

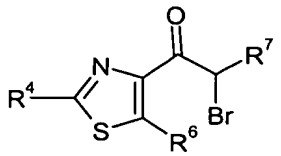
30. The compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid pentylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid propylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclohexylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclopentylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclopropylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid cyclobutylamide,
(*trans*) *rac*-1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid (2-hydroxy-cyclopentyl)-amide,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

31. The compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:
1-(4-Chloro-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-(3,4-Dimethoxy-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-[2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-(4-Isopropyl-benzyl)-5-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
5-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-4-yl]-2-methyl-1-pyridin-2-ylmethyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
1-Cyclohexylmethyl-5-(2-cyclohexyl-thiazol-4-yl)-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylic acid butylamide,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

32. A process for the manufacture of compounds of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, which process comprises reaction of an enamine of formula A:



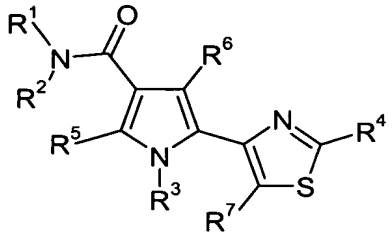
wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^5 and m are as defined claim 1;
with an alfa-bromoketone of formula B:



wherein R^4, R^6 and R^7 are as defined claim 1.

33. A compound manufactured by a process according to claim 32.

34. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, or lower alkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy-lower alkyl, lower alkoxycarbonylamino, $-(CH_2)_m-R^{2a}$ or $-NHC(O)-R^{2a}$;

or R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered, saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or two further heteroatom(s) independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy;

R^{2a} is cycloalkyl, optionally mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; cycloalkenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, lower alkylamino; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;

R^3 is lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy-lower alkyl, di-phenyl-lower alkyl, or $-(CH_2)_n-R^{3a}$;

R^{3a} is cycloalkyl, which may optionally be fused to a phenyl ring; or cycloalkyl which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; cycloalkenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino or lower alkylamino; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;

R^4 is lower alkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl; cycloalkyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, lower alkylamino; phenoxy-lower alkyl, wherein the phenyl moiety may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro; or two adjacent substituents of the said phenyl residue together are $-O-(CH_2)_p-O-$ or $-(CH_2)_2-O-$;

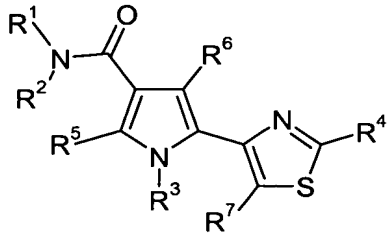
R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen or fluorinated methyl;

R^7 is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen;

m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;
n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;
p is 1, 2 or 3;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or adjuvant.

35. A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of a disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein
R^1 is hydrogen, or lower alkyl;
R^2 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy-lower alkyl, lower alkoxycarbonylamino, $-(CH_2)_m-R^{2a}$ or $-NHC(O)-R^{2a}$;
or R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered, saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or two further heteroatom(s) independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy;
R^{2a} is cycloalkyl, optionally mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; cycloalkenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered

monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, lower alkylamino; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;

R^3 is lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy-lower alkyl, di-phenyl-lower alkyl, or $-(CH_2)_n-R^{3a}$;

R^{3a} is cycloalkyl, which may optionally be fused to a phenyl ring; or cycloalkyl which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; cycloalkenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent saturated heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heterocyclic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino or lower alkylamino; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro;

R^4 is lower alkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl; cycloalkyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, fluorinated lower alkyl or fluorinated lower alkoxy; a 5-or 6-membered monovalent heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, said heteroaromatic ring being optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, lower alkylamino; phenoxy-lower alkyl, wherein the phenyl moiety may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro; or phenyl, which may optionally be mono-, di- or tri-substituted, independently, by, hydroxy, lower alkyl,

lower alkoxy, halogen, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy or nitro; or two adjacent substituents of the said phenyl residue together are -O-$(CH_2)_p$-O- or -$(CH_2)_2$-O- ;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen or fluorinated methyl;

R^7 is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen;

m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

p is 1, 2 or 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5.

36. The method according to claim 35, wherein the disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor is selected from the group consisting of psychic disorders, anxiety, psychosis, schizophrenia, depression, abuse of psychotropes, abuse and/or dependence of a substance, alcohol dependency, nicotine dependency, neuropathies, migraine, stress, epilepsy, dyskinesias, Parkinson's disease, amnesia, cognitive disorders, senile dementia, Alzheimer's disease, eating disorders, obesity, diabetes type II or non insulin dependent diabetes (NIDD), gastrointestinal diseases, vomiting, diarrhea, urinary disorders, cardiovascular disorders, infertility disorders, inflammations, infections, cancer, neuroinflammation, in particular in atherosclerosis, or the Guillain-Barré syndrome, viral encephalitis, cerebral vascular incidents and cranial trauma.

37. The method according to claim 35, wherein the disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor is selected from the group consisting of eating disorders, obesity, diabetes type II or non insulin dependent diabetes (NIDD), neuroinflammation, diarrhea, abuse and/or dependence of a substance, alcohol dependency, nicotine dependency.

38. The method according to claim 35, wherein the disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor is selected from the group consisting of eating disorders, obesity, diabetes type II or non insulin dependent diabetes (NIDD), abuse and/or dependence of a substance, alcohol dependency and nicotine dependency.

39. The method according to claim 35, wherein the disease associated with the modulation of the CB1 receptor is obesity.